



Robert Greene Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Cornwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbala  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffe  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
Linda E. Alcorn  
Robert C. Millonig  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Michael V. Messenger  
Judith U. Kim

Patrick E. Garrett  
Jeffrey T. Helvey  
Heidi L. Kraus  
Eldora L. Ellison  
Thomas C. Fiala  
Albert L. Ferro  
Donald R. Banowitz  
Peter A. Jackman  
Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Virgil Lee Beaton  
Theodore A. Wood  
Elizabeth J. Haanes  
Joseph S. Ostroff  
Frank R. Cottingham  
Rae Lynn P. Guest  
George S. Bardmesser

Daniel A. Klein  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Michael D. Specht  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Tracy L. Muller  
Jon E. Wright  
LuAnne M. DeSantis  
Ann E. Summerfield  
Aric W. Ledford  
Helene C. Carlson  
Cynthia M. Bouchez  
Timothy A. Doyle  
Gaby L. Longworth  
Lori A. Gordon  
Nicole D. Dretar  
Ted J. Ebersole  
Laura A. Vogel  
Michael J. Mancuso  
Bryan S. Wade

Aaron L. Schwartz  
Michael G. Penn  
Shannon A. Carroll  
Wesley W. Jones  
Matthew E. Kelley  
Nicole R. Kramer  
Michelle K. Holoubek  
Marsha A. Rose

**Registered Patent Agents\***  
Karen R. Markowicz  
Nancy J. Leith  
Matthew J. Dowd  
Katrina Yujian Pei Quach  
Bryan L. Skelton  
Robert A. Schwartzman  
Teresa A. Colella  
Victoria S. Rutherford

Simon J. Elliott  
Julie A. Hader  
Mita Mukherjee  
Scott M. Woodhouse  
Christopher J. Walsh  
Liliana Di Nola-Baron  
Peter A. Socarras  
Jeffrey Mills

**Of Counsel**  
Kenneth C. Bass III  
Marvin C. Guthrie

\*Admitted only in Maryland  
\*Admitted only in Virginia  
\*Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

July 1, 2005

**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:**  
(202) 772-8587  
**INTERNET ADDRESS:**  
PGARRETT@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 09/909,896; Filed: July 23, 2001  
For: **Methods and Systems for Digitally Processing Optical Data Signals**  
Inventors: AGAZZI *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1875.1100001

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) (PTO/SB/22);
2. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038);
3. Amendment and Reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

*Jeff Helvey (44,757)*  
for Patrick E. Garrett  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 39,987

PEG/mlb  
Enclosures

413965\_1.DOC